GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3868
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2001
EXPLORATION IN BARMER DISTRICT OF WESTERN RAJASTHAN
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that during exploration at GUDA-B in Barmer district of Western Rajasthan, good quality oil was found which is spread over an area of 4000 sq.km.;

(b) whether initial test showed that this well can produce 2,000 barrels of oil per day;

(c) if so, whether the oil struck in GUDA-B is suitable for aviation purpose which is being imported by us by investing a huge foreign exchange;

(d) whether the existing refineries in the country do not have necessary facilities for refining good quality crude oil struck in Western Rajasthan;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to establish a refinery at Barmer; and

(f) if so, the time by which the final decision to establish refinery is likely to be taken?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a): Good quality oil (380 API) was struck at well No. Guda # 2 in an exploration block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer district of Rajasthan. Interpretation of the present data indicates the reservoir to be of limited extent.

(b): During testing the well flowed oil at the rate of about 2070 barrels per day.

(c): The well produce crude oil whereas, aviation fuel is a refined petroleum product.

(d): As on date, the discovery is not considered commercial on a `stand-alone basis`.

(e) & (f): Do not arise in view of (d) above